

Warren E. Burger Federal Building

St. Paul, MN

October 2014



Why Veterans Day never moves

Many people realize that Veterans Day, which always falls on November 11, is a day to honor our veterans, but few realize the historical significance behind the day.

Veterans Day originated as Armistice Day and marked the end of World War I hostilities that occurred at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month. Therefore, the day is always recognized on November 11th, regardless of the day of the week.



In 1919, President Wilson commemorated the first Armistice Day with these words:

"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

GSA CONTACTS:

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FROM THE DESK OF TIM SCULLY

Requesting visitor parking spaces

I often receive e-mails or phone calls from tenants requesting parking for a guest at the loading dock in the back of the building. I am more than happy to give an okay to park there, if I can.

Please keep in mind, there are only two visitor parking spots at the dock. These spots are for contractors and others doing business in the Courthouse with GSA or other agencies. A number of projects starting this fall and winter will use these spots on many days. Please understand, I will accommodate requests when I can, but they will be in high demand as work in the building steps up.

BUILDING NEWS

Replacement of the freight elevator will be starting around November 1. The freight elevator will be outfitted with a new cab and all new controls and motors. While the freight elevator cab is being replaced, one of the six main passenger elevators will be used as a freight elevator replacement.

With winter almost here, please keep in mind our building temperatures are set to provide environmental conditions acceptable to more than 80% of occupants. Small space heaters may seem like a good idea, but they are typically prohibited for safety purposes. Any space heaters used must be UL certified and approved by the GSA Property Manager.

GO GREEN**Veterans Day—then and now**

Veterans Day was originally set aside to honor the Veterans of World War I with a day of parades and remembrances as well as a pause in activities at 11a.m. on the day.

However, after World War II and the Korean War, Congress recognized a need to expand the meaning of the day to recognize all of our Veterans and not just those of World War I.

In 1954, the word "Armistice" was replaced with "Veterans" as a way to formally include all veterans of American wars in the day of remembrance.

Today, Veterans Day is a federal holiday which many cities celebrate with parades and ceremonies.

In Washington, D.C., there are ceremonies throughout the city including a wreath laying at Arlington National Cemetery.

Veterans Day is a day not only to remember those who died in service to our country, but also to recognize those who continue to serve today.

Americans are encouraged to say thank you to those who fulfill this patriotic duty to maintain the freedoms of our country.

**SECURITY TIPS*****If You See Something, Say Something...especially in our building***

The nationwide *If You See Something, Say Something*™ public awareness campaign - is a simple and effective program to raise public awareness of indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, and to emphasize the importance of reporting suspicious activity to the proper local law enforcement authorities.

Report life-threatening and non-life-threatening emergencies in federal buildings to [Federal Protective Service \(FPS\)](#). Report suspicious activity by calling **1-877-4FPS-411 (1-877-437-7411)**.

**UPCOMING HOLIDAYS**

Veterans Day—Nov. 11

Thanksgiving Day—Nov. 27

Christmas Day—Dec. 25

New Years Day—Jan 1